

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 173388  
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL SYDNEY IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 173388

EXDIS FORDEPUTY SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER FROM BRIZILL

FOLLOWING REPEAT BRASILIA 6143 ACTION SECSTATE INFO ASUNCION  
JULY 22.

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 6143

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM BR PA

SUBJ: PRESENTATION OF SECRETARY'S MESSAGE TO FOREIGN MINISTER  
SILVEIRA

REF: (A) STATE 168495, (B) STATE 170376, (C) ASUNCION 2980

1. I SAW AMBASSADOR RAMIRO SARAIVA GUERREIRO, THE SECRETARY  
GENERAL OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, AT 11:30. IT WAS A  
MEASURED BUT FRIENDLY, PROFESSIONAL MEETING. AMBASSADOR  
GUERREIRO SAID HE WOULD BRING THE SECRETARY'S LETTER AND THE  
ACCOMPANYING ORAL POINTS IMMEDIATELY TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S  
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ATTENTION ALTHOUGH, HE NOTED, SILVEIRA WAS LEAVING AT NOON  
FOR SAO JORDAO DOS CAMPOS.

2. BEFORE PRESENTING THE LETTER, I RECALLED THE SECRETARY'S  
MOST RECENT MEETING WITH SILVEIRA IN GRENADA, AT WHICH HUMAN  
RIGHTS AND, IN PARTICULAR, THE FUTURE ROLE AND ACTIVITIES OF  
THE INTER-AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION HAD BEEN DISCUSSED.

WASHINGTON WAS MOST CONCERNED, I SAID, ABOUT THE APPARENT DELAY BY PARAGUAY TO AGREE TO THE VISIT OF THE COMMISSION, TO WHICH THE GOP HAD AGREED, BEFORE THE GRENADA MEETING, AND HOPED THAT BRAZIL WOULD SUPPORT THE VISIT THROUGH ITS GOOD OFFICES IN ASUNCION.

3. AFTER READING THE LETTER AMBASSADOR GUERREIRO SAID HE APPRECIATED THE US POINT, BUT THAT BRAZIL HAD TO BE VERY VERY CAREFUL AND AVOID APPEARING TO INSERT ITSELF INTO PARAGUAYAN AFFAIRS. DRAWING ON AMBASSADOR LANDAU'S HELPFUL MESSAGE (REF C), I SAID THAT I WAS SURE WASHINGTON APPRECIATED THIS, BUT THAT IT WAS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT MANY INFLUENTIAL PARAGUAYANS BELIEVED IT WOULD BE IN THEIR COUNTRY'S BEST INTERESTS TO PERMIT A VISIT OF THE IAHRG SOON. GUERREIRO REITERATED THAT, AS WE KNEW, BRAZIL'S RELATIONSHIP WITH PARAGUAY WAS A VERY DELICATE ONE FOR BRAZIL. I REPLIED THAT THE EMBASSY'S IMPRESSION WAS THAT PARAGUAY'S ATTITUDE WAS VERY HEAVILY INFLUENCED BY ITS CONCERN OVER THE ATTITUDE OF ITS NEIGHBORS.

4. THE DISCUSSION THEN TURNED TO THE TALKING POINTS. THE REFERENCE TO OUR COMMON HERITAGE IN THE FIRST SENTENCE CLEARLY STRUCK A POSITIVE CORD, BUT GUERREIRO BECAME VISIBLY UNEASY AS THE PRESENTATION PROGRESSED. WHEN I CONCLUDED, HOWEVER, GUERREIRO IMMEDIATELY EXPRESSED HIS GRATIFICATION THAT PRESIDENT GEISEL'S PERSONAL EFFORTS "IN CURBING ABUSES" WERE ACKNOWLEDGED AND RECOGNIZED. HE THEN PROCEEDED TO REPEAT

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THE VARIOUS ELEMENTS OF THE BRAZILIAN POSITION WHICH, HE SAID, WERE FAMILIAR TO US. WHILE WE SHARED COMMON OBJECTIVES, TRYING TO JUDGE THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN ANOTHER COUNTRY CONSTITUTED IN THE BRAZILIAN VIEW, INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF THAT COUNTRY. LABELING THIS A PERSONAL, RATHER THAN OFFICIAL, OPINION, HE SAID THE PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS HAD TO PROCEED GRADUALLY AND JUDICIOUSLY, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT HISTORICAL CIRCUMSTANCES AND THE STAGE OF SOCIAL AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT REACHED BY THAT COUNTRY. I STRESSED THAT, AS HE KNEW, OUR PHILOSOPHY WAS DIFFERENT. ON THE ROLE OF INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS GUERREIRO SAID WE WERE ALSO FAMILIAR WITH THE BRAZILIAN POSITION. LIKE MANY OTHER COUNTRIES, BRAZIL MAINTAINS THAT THE STATUTES OF THESE ORGANIZATIONS DO NOT PROVIDE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AS A CONSIDERATION IN THEIR LOAN POLICY. HE QUICKLY WENT ON TO SAY THAT HE WOULD TRANSMIT THE SECRETARY'S LETTER AND THE ACCOMPANYING COMMENTS AT ONCE TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER.

5. AT THE END OF THE MEETING, I EXECUTED THE GAMBIT OUTLINED IN REF B. GUERREIRO CHOSE TO ACCEPT THE TALKING POINTS PAPER. RUSER UNQUOTE VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Event:**  
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